I hereby certify that this correspondence is faxed to: 703-746-5112 on the date shows before

Dated: January 22, 2004

Ignalure: (Michael H. Teschner)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 1615

Docket No.: CIMA 3.0-035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Holt et al.

Application No.: 09/449,851

Group Art Unit: 1615

Filed: November 24, 1999

Examiner: KISHORE

For

TASTE MASKING RAPID RELEASE

COATING SYSTEM

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In further response to the Official Action dated October 15, 2002, in which claims 1, 4-18 and 21-25 were rejected, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: